



STQA-Session 9

Black Box Testing (3)

Decision Table

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Black Box Testing Techniques

- Boundary Value Analysis
- Equivalence Partitioning
- Decision Table
- Cause-Effect Graph
- Combinatorial Test



Black Box Testing Techniques

- Review
 - Boundary Value Analysis
 - Equivalence Partitioning



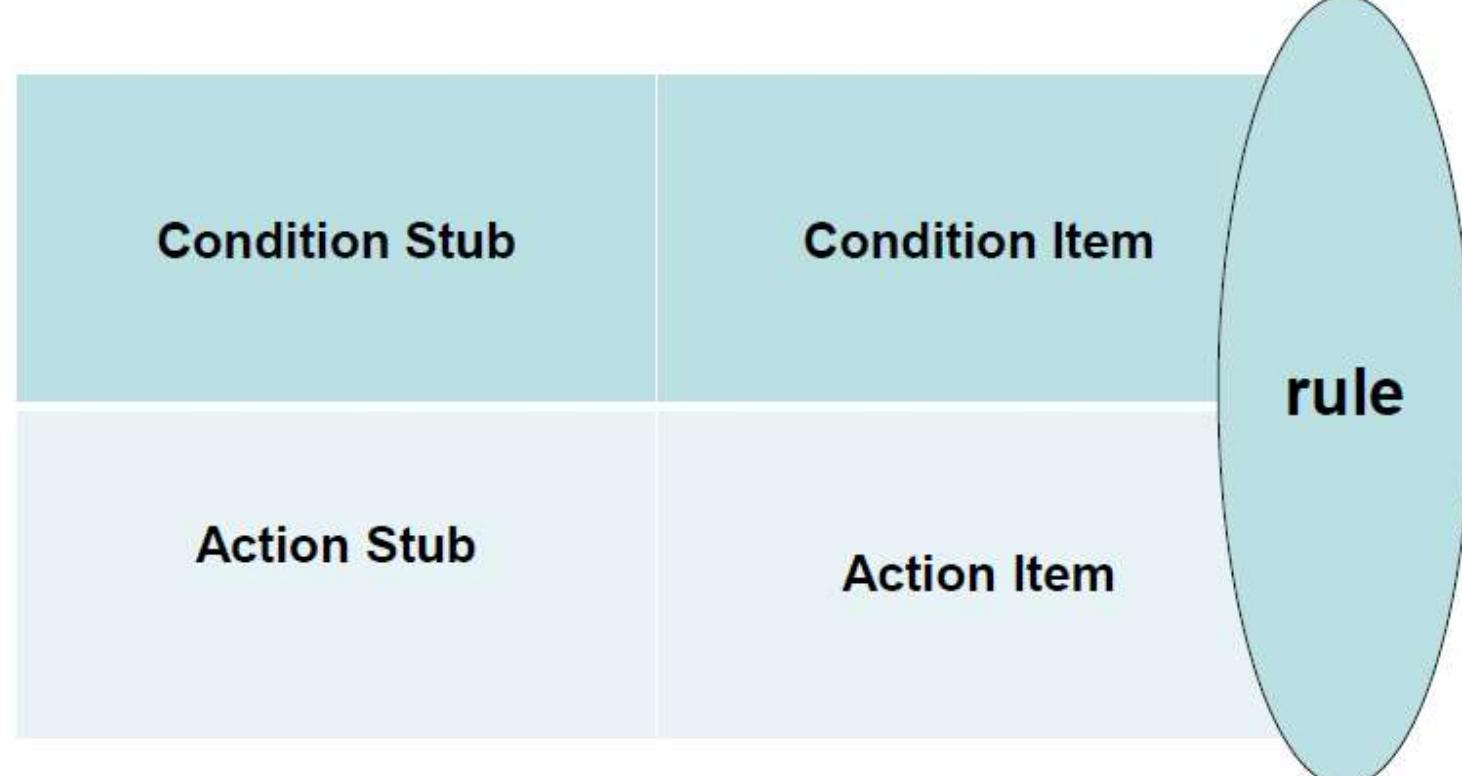
Decision Table

A black-box test design technique in which test cases are designed to execute the **combinations of inputs.**



Decision table is good for representing and analyzing complex logical relationships.

Decision Table Template





Decision Table

Limited entry decision table: All the conditions are **binary**

Extended entry decision table: Conditions are allowed to have **several values**

Mixed entry decision table

Limited Entry Decision Tables

Don't care: the condition is irrelevant,
or the condition does not apply

Rules	1	2	3-4	5	6	7-8
c1	T	T	T	F	F	F
c2	T	T	F	T	T	F
c3	T	F	—	T	F	—
a1	X	X		X		
a2	X				X	
a3		X		X		
a4			X			X

Condition: input/equivalence class of input

Action: output/major functional processing portions
of the item tested

Extended Entry Decision Tables

	Rules	1	2	3
Condition	c1	0-10	0-10	10-100
Action	c2	<5	5	>5
a1	DoX	DoX	DoY	
a2	DoA	DoB	DoC	

Mixed Entry Decision Tables

Cutting Machines		R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8
C1	Turning diameter	$D \leq 200$	$200 < D \leq 500$	$D \leq 200$	$200 < D \leq 500$	$D \leq 200$	$200 < D \leq 500$	$D \leq 200$	$200 < D \leq 500$
C2	Turning length	$L \leq 1000$	$L \leq 1000$	$1000 < L \leq 1500$	$1000 < L \leq 1500$	$L \leq 1000$	$L \leq 1000$	$1000 < L \leq 1500$	$1000 < L \leq 1500$
C3	Milling needed	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
A1	Machine 4711	X	.	X
A2	Machine 4712	.	X	.	X
A3	Machine 4713	X	X
A4	Machine 4714	X	X	.	.



How to Make a Decision Table?

1. List all condition stubs and action stubs
2. Fill the condition items.
3. Fill the action items, make a initial table
4. Decision Table Verification



Decision Table Verification

- Completeness
- Combining
- Redundancy
- Inconsistency

Completeness of decision table

The decision table should contain every combination of Predicate values

For limited entry decision tables, if n conditions exist, there must be 2^n rules.

When *don't care* entries really indicate that the condition is irrelevant, we can develop a rule count as follows:

- rules in which no don't care entries occur count as one rule
- each don't care entry in a rule **doubles** the count of that rule.



What about extended entry decision tables?



Combining rules in Decision table

Consider the following decision table:

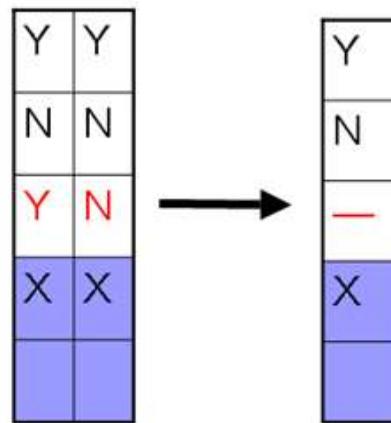
Rules	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c1	T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F
c2	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F
c3	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F
a1			X	X			X	X
a2	X	X			X			
a3			X	X			X	X
a4						X		

Multiple rules may be combined when multiple rules with
the same condition and same outcome

similar

Which rule(s) may be combined?





Rules	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c1	T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F
c2	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F
c3	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F
a1				X	X		X	X
a2	X	X			X			
a3				X	X		X	X
a4						X		

Rules	1	2	3-4	5	6	7-8
c1	T	T	T	F	F	F
c2	T	T	F	T	T	F
c3	T	F	-	T	F	-
a1			X			X
a2	X	X		X		
a3			X			X
a4				X		

Rules	1-2	3-4, 7-8	5	6
c1	T	-	F	F
c2	T	F	T	T
c3	-	-	T	F
a1		X		
a2	X		X	
a3		X		
a4				X

Check completeness

Other Contracted Decision Table?

Y	Y
-	N
N	N
X	X



Y
-
N
X

Redundant Decision Table

stub	1-4	5	6	7	8	9
c1	T	F	F	F	F	T
c2	-	T	T	F	F	F
c3	-	T	F	T	F	F
a1	X	X	X	-	-	X
a2	-	X	X	X	-	-
a3	X	-	X	X	X	X

What is the redundancy in this decision table?

Inconsistent Decision Table

Every combination of predicate truth values results in only one action or set of actions

Stub	1–4	5	6	7	8	9
c1	T	F	F	F	F	T
c2	—	T	T	F	F	F
c3	—	T	F	T	F	F
a1	X	X	X	—	—	—
a2	—	X	X	X	—	X
a3	X	—	X	X	X	—

What is the problem of this decision table?



How to Make a Decision Table?

1. List all condition stubs and action stubs
2. Fill the condition items.
3. Fill the action items, make a initial table
4. Decision Table Verification
 - Completeness
 - Combining
 - Redundancy
 - Inconsistence



Examples

- Triangle problem
- NextDate problem

Decision Table for the Triangle Problem

Based on EP results

Don't care entries

How many rules?

Stub	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
c1: a, b, c form a triangle?	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
c2: a = b?	—	T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F
c3: a = c?	—	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F
c4: b = c?	—	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F
a1: Not a Triangle	X								
a2: Scalene									X
a3: Isosceles					X		X	X	
a4: Equilateral		X							
a5: Impossible			X	X		X			

Impossible rule

Infeasible equivalence class

Decision Table for the Triangle Problem (Refined version with rule count)

Stub	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
c1: $a < b + c?$	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
c2: $b < a + c?$	—	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
c3: $c < a + b?$	—	—	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
c4: $a = b?$	—	—	—	T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F
c5: $a = c?$	—	—	—	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F
c6: $b = c?$	—	—	—	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F
Rule Count	32	16	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
a1: Not a Triangle	X	X	X								
a2: Scalene											X
a3: Isosceles							X		X	X	
a4: Equilateral				X							
a5: Impossible					X	X		X			

Test Cases for the triangle problem

Case ID	a	b	c	Expected Output
DT1	4	1	2	Not a Triangle
DT2	1	4	2	Not a Triangle
DT3	1	2	4	Not a Triangle
DT4	5	5	5	Equilateral
DT5	?	?	?	Impossible
DT6	?	?	?	Impossible
DT7	2	2	3	Isosceles
DT8	?	?	?	Impossible
DT9	2	3	2	Isosceles
DT10	3	2	2	Isosceles
DT11	3	4	5	Scalene

DT5, DT6, DT8 are infeasible ECs

一个简单的练习

- 某公司的对客户分类标准如下：
 - 顾客每次订货额在 1000 元以上（含 1000 元），信誉好的，订单设“优先”标志；信誉不好，但是老客户的，订单设“优先”标志；信誉不好，但是新客户的，订单设“正常”标志；
 - 每次订货额在 1000 元以下，订单设“正常”标志。
- 请绘制相应的决策表。

一个简单的练习

C1: 订货额 ≥ 1000 ?

C2: 信誉好?

C3: 老客户?

rules

A1: 订单设“优先”标志

A2: 订单设“正常”标志

一个简单的练习

	1	2	3	4
C1: 订货额 ≥ 1000 ?	T	T	T	F
C2: 信誉好?	T	F	F	-
C3: 老客户?	-	T	F	-
# rules	2	1	1	4
A1: 订单设“优先”标志	X	X		
A2: 订单设“正常”标志			X	X

NextDate Input Equivalence Classes

- M1 = { month: month has 30 days}
- M2 = { month: month has 31 days}
- M3 = { month: month is February}
- D1 = {day: $1 \leq \text{day} \leq 28$ }
- D2={day: day=29}
- D3={day: day=30}
- D4={day: day=31}
- Y1={year: leap year};
- Y2={year: not leap year}.

NextDate Output Equivalence Classes

- A1: impossible day
- A2: incremented day value
- A3: date reset
- A4: incremented month value
- A5: month reset
- A6: incremented year value

Limited Entry Decision Table

Condition				
C1: Is month in M1? C2: Is month in M2? C3: Is month in M3? C4: Is date in D1? C5: Is date in D2? C6: Is date in D3? C7: Is date in D4? C8: is year in Y1?	T	T	T	
A1: possible A2: NextDate				

256 rules

Second trying: **extended entry** decision table + considering leap year 2000

- Equivalent class set

M1={Month: 30 days}

M2={Month: 31 days}

M3={Month: February}

D1={Date: 1<=Date<=28}

D2={Date: Date=29}

D3={Date: Date=30}

D4={Date: Date=31}

Y1={Year: year=2000}

Y2={Year: is leap year and !=2000}

Y3={Year: is not leap year}

Second trying

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C1: month	M1	M1	M1	M1	M2	M2	M2	M2
C2: date	D1	D2	D3	D4	D1	D2	D3	D4
C3: year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
# rules	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
A1:impossible				X				
A2:date++	X	X			X	X	X	
A3:date reset			X					X
A4:month++				X				?
A5:month reset								?
A6:year++								?

Extended entry decision table

3*4*3=36rules

Second trying (continued)

	9	10	11	12	13	15	15	16
C1: month	M3							
C2: date	D1	D1	D1	D2	D2	D2	D3	D4
C3: year	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y1	Y2	Y3	-	-
# rules	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3
A1:impossible						X	X	X
A2:date++	X	X						
A3:date reset			X	X	X			
A4:month++			X	X	X			
A5:month reset								
A6:year++								

Third trying: consider date and month

- Equivalent class set

M1={Month: 30 days}

M2={Month: 31 days, except December}

M3={Month: December}

M4={Month: February}

D1={Date: 1<=Date<=27}

D2= {Date: Date=28}

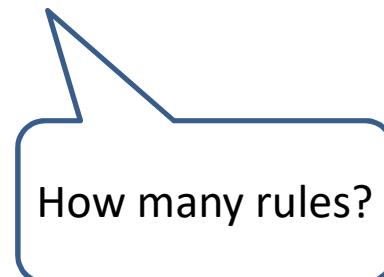
D3={Date: Date=29}

D4={Date: Date=30}

D5={Date: Date=31}

Y1={Year: is leap year}

Y2={Year: is not leap year}



Decision Table for NextDate

Decision Table for NextDate (continued)

	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
c1: 月在	M3	M3	M3	M3	M3	M4						
c2: 日在	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D1	D2	D2	D3	D3	D4	D5
C3: 年在	-				-	-	Y1	Y2	Y1	Y2	-	-
动作												
a1: 不可能										X	X	X
a2: 日增1	X	X	X	X		X	X					
a3: 日复位					X			X	X			
a4: 月增1								X	X			
a5: 月复位					X							
a6: 年增1					X							

Simplified Decision Table for NextDate

	1-3	4	5	6-9	10
c1: 月份在	M1	M1	M1	M2	M2
c2: 日期在	D1, D2, D3	D4	D5	D1, D2, D3, D4	D5
c3: 年在	-	-	-	-	-
动作					
a1: 不可能			X		
a2: 日期增1	X			X	
a3: 日期复位		X			X
a4: 月份增1		X			X
a5: 月份复位					
a6: 年增1					

Simplified Decision Table for NextDate (continued)

	11-14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21-22
c1: 月份在	M3	M3	M4	M4	M4	M4	M4	M4
c2: 日期在	D1, D2, D3, D4	D5	D1	D2	D2	D3	D3	D4, D5
C3: 年在	-	-	-	Y1	Y2	Y1	Y2	-
动作								
a1: 不可能						X	X	
a2: 日期增1	X		X	X				
a3: 日期复位		X			X	X		
a4: 月份增1					X	X		
a5: 月份复位		X						
a6: 年增1		X						

13 Test cases of NextDate

用例 ID	月份	日期	年	预期输出
1—3	4	15	2001	2001 年 4 月 16 日
4	4	30	2001	2001 年 5 月 1 日
5	4	31	2001	不可能
6—9	1	15	2001	2001 年 1 月 16 日
10	1	31	2001	2001 年 2 月 1 日
11—14	12	15	2001	2001 年 12 月 16 日
15	12	31	2001	2002 年 1 月 1 日
16	2	15	2001	2001 年 2 月 16 日
17	2	28	2004	2004 年 2 月 29 日
18	2	28	2001	2001 年 3 月 1 日
19	2	29	2004	2004 年 3 月 1 日
20	2	29	2001	不可能
21—22	2	30	2001	不可能

Exercise (consider from another point)

- Equivalent class set

D1={Date: $1 \leq \text{Date} \leq 27$ }

D2= {Date: Date=28}

D3={Date: Date=29}

D4={Date: Date=30}

D5={Date: Date=31}

M1={Month: 30 days}

M2={Month: 31 days, except December}

M3={Month: December}

M4={Month: February}

Y1={Year: is leap year}

Y2={Year: is not leap year}

13 Test cases of NextDate

BVA VS. EP VS. DT

- 边界值分析

基于取值域，不识别数据或逻辑关系；

很容易自动化实现，设计工作量小；

生成的测试用例数比较多，测试用例执行时间长。

- 等价类技术

考虑数据依赖关系，标识等价类时需要更多的判断和技巧；

等价类标识出以后的处理也是机械的；

设计工作量和测试用例数属中等。

- 决策表技术

考虑数据的逻辑依赖关系；

所得测试用例可以是完备的，测试数量在一定意义上讲是最少的；

需要通过多次迭代，设计工作量很大。



Black Box Testing Techniques

- Boundary Value Analysis
- Equivalence Partitioning
- Decision Table
- Cause-Effect Graph
- Combinatorial Test